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REMARKSI. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

In the Office Action, Claims 1-5, 8, 11-12, 16-19, and 21-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Clark. Applicant notes that he has canceled Claims 2-3 and 17 without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant respectfully submits that, as amended, Claims 1, 4-5, 8, 11-12, 16, 18-19 and 21-23 are patentably distinguishable over Clark.

Applicant has amended independent Claims 1, 16 and 21 to more positively recite the features of the claimed invention. In this regard, the amended claims clarify that the flexible vehicle fluid container is a "bladder" that is sufficiently flexible so that the sides contract as fluid exits, causing has the bladder to have a smaller exterior size than when filled. Support for this Amendment may be found in the Specification. See, e.g., Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments, p. 4, line 22 to p. 5, line 1. The advantage of this construction, as noted in the specification, is that it reduces the risk of contamination since it prevents or at least substantially reduces the amount of air entering the container, and it reduces waste since the emptied container is smaller than the filled container.

Applicant respectfully submits that these features are not shown in the Clark reference. The "container 14" in Clark, as shown in Fig. 5, is a typical prior art container of fixed dimension, which has "either rigid or flexible plastic walls." Col. 1, lines 6-10. There is no teaching in Clark that the container is a bladder, or that the external size thereof changes as fluid is dispensed therefrom. This prevents the Clark apparatus from

providing either the reduced contamination or waste reduction benefits of the present invention.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1, 4-5, 8, 11-12, 16, 18-19 and 21-23 are patentably distinguishable over Clark.

II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

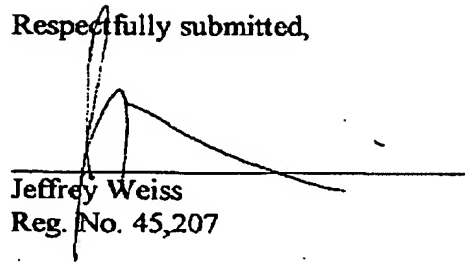
In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 13-15 and 20 over Clark in view of Gatzke. In response, Applicant notes the amendment of independent Claims 1 and 16, discussed above, with respect to the feature of the container being a "bladder" that is sufficiently flexible so that the sides contract as fluid exits, causing has the bladder to have a smaller exterior size than when filled. As discussed above, these features are not shown in Clark, the primary reference cited in support of this rejection. They are also not shown in Gatzke. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention, as claimed in Claims 13-15 and 20, is not obvious in light of the cited combination.

In conclusion, Applicant respectfully submits that this Amendment, including the amendments to the Specification and claims and in view of the Remarks offered in conjunction therewith, are fully responsive to all aspects of the objections and rejections tendered in the Office Action. Applicants therefore earnestly solicit the issuance of a Notice of Allowance with respect to Claims 1, 4-5, 8, 11-16, and 18-23.

If there are any additional fees incurred by this Amendment, please deduct them from our Deposit Account No. 23-0830.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: July __, 2007



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